PRESENT:
Walton Parish Councillors: S. Loader, L. Hardware, D. Harvey, H. Shearer, [4] R. Crossman [5]
Members of the public: None
Somerset Cllr: H. Shearer
Parish Clerk: H. Moore

2026.27.092 Chair of meeting.

Due to the non-attendance of both the Chair & Vice Chair it was ***Resolved [3/0]*** that Cllr. H. Shearer would Chair the meeting.

*** Cllr. R. Crossman joined the meeting at this point***

2026.27.093 To receive and consider reasons for non-attendance.

a. Having considered the reasons for non-attendance offered by Cllr. J. Harvey and Cllr. B. Collins, it was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that the reasons were accepted for this meeting.

2026.27.094 Councillors

a. Disclosure of any undeclared interests and notification of any dispensations granted.
Cllr. R. Crossman – Item: the Walton Trust
b. Training requests and review – The Clerk reported that the CANVA training had been very useful and that they would run Cllr. L. Hardware through the main points as they had been unable to attend.
c. Councillor vacancies –
To consider any applications received and/or co-opt to fill the current vacancies. It was noted that the resident who has previously expressed an interest would be eligible for co-option at the November Parish Council meeting.

2026.27.095 Minutes of the previous meeting

a. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that the minutes of the meeting of Friday 18th September 2026, were an accurate record. They were then signed as such by the Chair.

2026.27.096 Public Speaking and Correspondence

a. **Declarations of interest in speaking on agenda item[s]:** To speak for no more than 3 minutes on items on the agenda [Public participation shall not exceed 30 minutes in total]
No requests were made
b. Opportunity to raise issues/concerns not on this agenda: To speak just for information. Council to agree if the item is to be added to the agenda of a future meeting or not. [Maximum of 5 speakers per meeting and 2 minutes per item]
None raised
c. **Correspondence received from members of the public:** Regarding issues/concerns not on this agenda – for information only. Council to agree if the item is to be added to the agenda of a future meeting or not.
It was noted that one FOI had been received and responded to.

2026.27.097 Planning

a. To receive any planning decisions reported –
2026/1506/APP – The Granary Middle Ivythorn Lane Walton – approval of details reserved by decision – split decision
2026/1301/VRC – 72 Main Street Walton – Variation of conditions - Approved
b. To consider planning applications received –
2026/1904/HSE Construction of car port structure. Thomas Farm Butleigh Moor Drove Walton TA7 9BN –
Following discussion of the design and visibility of the structure it was ***Resolved [5/0]*** to recommend approval of the application.

c. To consider updates regarding any major local building developments and agree any action required.
i. Planning application 2026/1913/FUL – 48 Homes, Quarry Batch:
1. It was reported that a Bloor Homes drop in information/consultation meeting had been arranged for Tuesday 27th October 2026 between 4.30 and 7.30pm.
2. It was reported that an extension had been granted to facilitate a response from Council by Monday 9th November 2026.
3. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that an extraordinary parish council meeting would be arranged for either Tuesday 3rd November of Friday 6th November dependent on Church hall availability.
4. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that 500 flyers promoting both events would be printed and provided for Councillors to deliver

d. General Planning concerns to note.
i. The planning application for The Barn at East Mead Lane was currently in liaison with Highways re access concerns.

2026.27.098 Visual History Project

a. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that the updated quote to produce 20 copies of the booklet was accepted.

2026.27.099 Walton Neighbourhood Plan

a. The report provided by the Chairman [attached as appendix one] was discussed and following a discussion of budgeting it was ***Resolved [5/0]*** to invite the proposed consultant to a Neighbourhood plan working group meeting to discuss his proposal. A decision regarding what to keep in house and what areas they would take on could then be made following receipt of a formal quote.

2026.27.100 Asset devolution from Somerset Council

a. A formal proposal from Somerset Council was still awaited and therefore no further action was required at this time.

2026.27.101 Communications and community engagement

a. It was reported that the email address hello@waltonsomerset-pc.gov.uk was operational
b. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that an Instagram account be set up by the Chair [Cllr. J. Harvey] for video posts to promote events and introduce Councillors.

2026.27.102 Meadow Lane Play Area

a. It was reported that the roller had been removed from the Trim Trail and that a replacement cost report was due from Cllr. B. Collins.
b. It was reported that the major holes in the grass safety surface had been infilled with topsoil.
c. It was noted that the gapping at the edges of the wet pour safety surface had not been repaired as the Ranger had reported that this was a bigger task and would need to be quoted for.
d. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that a decision on this item would be deferred until the November Monthly Parish Council meeting to allow all Councillors to view the issues [roller & safety surface edging] at the play area and to make an informed decision.

2026.27.103 Walton Hill Community Tree Trail

a. Cllr. D. Harvey reported that following the success of the September event no further events had yet been arranged and an approach was awaited from the group was awaited.
b. The Clerk advised that the initial grant funding report for SALC had been submitted and that they were awaiting confirmation.

2026.27.104 Remembrance Day Wreath & Contribution to the British Legion

a. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that a contribution of £110 would be made to the British Legion for the poppy appeal

b. It was proposed that the Chair and Vice Chair attend the Remembrance wreath laying as representatives of the Parish Council. As neither were present Cllr. L. Hardware agreed to be the backup.

2026.27.105 Village Upkeep

a. Village ranger.
   i. Trim Trail roller removed & holes in grass infilled at play area. Bulbs had been planted at the East Mead Community Area and the grass cutting completed.
   ii. Cutting back of weeds along Quarry Batch pavement not completed due to safety concerns. Clerk has reported the issue to Somerset Highways and requested that they carry out the weed removal.
   iii. It was agreed by Council that the following tasks be allocated for the coming month:
   Clear and weed planters – including the one close to Chancellors garages.
   Train Cllrs. S Loader & D Harvey on use of the Council Mower.
   Grass cutting as required.

b. Green Waste Disposal.
   Cllr. R. Crossman reported that they still needed to liaise with the Ranger as to the exact location.

c. East Mead Community Area trees.
   It was reported that a new date was being arranged for the works to the Ash trees

d. Littering and inappropriate behaviour.
   It was noted that regular litter picking was needed.

2026.27.106 Finances

a. To receive and consider approval of the monthly financial report.
   It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that the financial report, which included a bank reconciliation as at end of September 2026, was an accurate record and it was then signed as such. [attached as appendix Two].

b. To consider authorisation of the monthly payments schedule.
   The monthly payments schedule [attached as appendix three] was ***Resolved [5/0]***to be authorised with payments to be made following this meeting.

2026.27.107 Precept Grants

To consider the applications received and agree whether they were to receive a grant or not, or if further information was required. Any amounts to be awarded would be agreed at the November Monthly Parish Council meeting.

a. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that the Walton Under 5's pre school would receive a grant.
b. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that the Holy Trinity Church would receive a grant toward the maintenance of the closed churchyard and the illumination of the village street scene.
c. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that the Holy Trinity Church would receive a grant toward the cost of the repair of the village clock.

*** Cllr. R. Crossman left the meeting at this point***

2026.27.108 The Annual Contribution to the Walton Trust

a. It was ***Resolved [4/0]*** that a contribution of £3,000.00 would be made as the annual contribution toward the Walton Trust.
b. It was ***Resolved [4/0]*** that the Council agreed to continue with the agreement for a further year even if the Trust fully changed to a CIO during that period.

*** Cllr. R. Crossman returned to the meeting at this point***

2026.27.109 November 2026 Newsletter

a. It was agreed that the centre pages would be about the Somerset Chairs Award and the Walton Village award.

2026.27.110 Walton Village Award

a. The wording of the award was agreed.
b. It was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that the Board would now go to the signwriters and that a certificate would be produced.

2026.27.111 Roads, Traffic & footpaths

a. Roads – It was reported that work at Butleigh Drove was ongoing. It was noted that Asney Road and Sharpham road were becoming impassable due to the risk of grounding out. A site meeting with Highways was proposed and Cllr. H. Shearer agreed to look into this.
b. Footpaths – No issues were reported.

2026.27.112 Reports for information but not decision

a. Somerset Councillor[s] – including A&P LCN update. – It was reported that the annual Somerset Council budget process was now underway.
b. Parish Councillors reports –
   i. Allotments – It was reported that the annual meeting had been held and that all was currently going well.

2026.27.113 Upcoming meetings and events

- Next Parish Council Meeting – Friday 13th November 2026 – 7pm at Walton Village Hall.
- Quarry Batch Developers Drop in information event – Tuesday 27th October 2026 from 4:30pm at the Village Hall
- Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting at the Church – date to be confirmed.

THE MEETING THEN CLOSED

Appendix One – Neighbourhood plan report

Neighbourhood planning update

To the 16th October 2026 parish council meeting.

A short resumé of where we are:
I communicated with Hatch Beauchamp and Puriton councils for a reference for Stuart. Both agreed that he was knowledgeable and helpful and that they would not have managed the plan as well without him. Both also mentioned that, in retrospect, certain tasks could have been done by the team had they known what was involved and hence they could have reduced the cost. Both groups recommended him as a useful resource.

Sue from Hatch Beauchamp offered to go through their action plan and documents with me. I have arranged to go there on Tuesday, 20th Oct at 09:00 and would be happy to bring one other with me if anyone is available. Any volunteers?

I have set up the NP working group. We are: Damian, Bob, Richard, Charlie Cullin, Charlie Bowles, Sandra Gristock and Lois Preece (who came to a meeting once and may still be interested in joining). I have arranged a kick-off meeting on Thursday 22nd at 19:00 in the Oak. I have also sent the team an info pack to let them know what collateral we have and what the task is. I hope it doesn't frighten them off.

It would be good if council could decide what to do with Stuart and how to engage him, if that is what we decide to do. My suggestion is a short teams meeting with the team and him, where he can lead us through his proposal. We can then decide what we take in-house and what we should budget for him to do. We need to get back to him in late Oct to discuss availability.

Regards,
John.

Cllr John Harvey
chair@waltonsomerset-pc.gov.uk

Appendix two - Monthly financial Report

To the October 16th, 2026, Parish Council Meeting.

1.Bank reconciliation as of End September 2026

Detail	Amount	Column1
Balance brought forward from 31st August 2026 Bank reconciliation	**£ 57,763.20**	
Less Payments authorised at September 2026 PCM:	£	
HMRC month 6	£ 176.26	
Michael Webb	£ 73.34	
Rural services partnership	£ 66.16	
H Moore	£ 64.62	
The Walton Trust	£ 152.50	
G.Roche	£ 100.47	
Viking office depot	£ 108.75	
Local Authority Technology	£ 60.00	
H. Moore	£ 1,134.93	SO
NEST	£ 173.26	DD
Bank service charge	£ 4.25	DD
EE	£ 24.00	
sub total	**£ 55,624.66**	
Plus receipts:	**£ -**	
Precept part two	£ 24,761.50	
Bank interest general deposit	£ 22.21	
bank interest harry skinner deposit	£ 1.28	
Receipts and Payments Balance as of 31/09/2026	**£ 80,409.65**	
Balance to agree with bank statements:	**£ -**	
current account [Community account]	**£ 23,976.50**	
reserve account [general deposit]	**£ 53,499.94**	
Harry Skinner Reserve	**£ 3,106.47**	
Sub total	**£ 80,582.91**	
Less uncleared / outstanding, payments:		
NEST	£ 173.26	
Bank Accounts Total as of 31/09/2026	**£ 80,409.65**	

Signed by Chairman

Date:

2. Transfers made between accounts in September 2026

From Deposit a/c to Current account, a total of - £550.00

This consisted of a payment from the play area reserve to the current account for the maintenance of the play area gate earlier this year.

3. Balance of general Reserves as of End September 2026

RESERVE	TYPE	BALANCE
Administration	*designated*	20,191.88
Election Expenses	*designated*	799.00
Play area	*designated*	13,296.17
East Mead Field	*restricted*	8,809.87
Community Benefit	*restricted*	846.91
Office Equipment	*designated*	791.68
Events	*designated*	1,799.82
Environment	*designated*	1,346.52
Village Improvement	*designated*	4,618.09
Village upkeep equipment	*designated*	1,000.00
TOTAL	*[balance of general deposit account]*	**53,499.94**

(Designated reserves are those agreed [ring fenced] by Council, restricted reserves are those restricted by grant conditions etc.)

4. Harry Skinner Reserve Account

Balance £3,106.47 [*restricted reserve]*

5. Precept

The second part of the precept has been received from Somerset Council.

Appendix Three - Payments for authorisation - October 2026

Walton Parish Council — **Payment sheet Financial year 2026 - 2027** — **Oct-26**

Payments for authorisation

cheque number etc	payee	budget area	budget set	balance	amount authori	VAT	VAT reg.No.	budget remaining	invoice numb	invoice date	total payment	notes
Standing order	**H Moore**	Staff costs	£ 17,965.00	£ 9,058.70	**£ 1,134.93**			£ 7,923.77	Month 7	October	**£ 1,134.93**	SO
Direct Debit	**NEST**	Staff costs	£ 17,965.00	£ 7,923.77	**£ 173.26**			£ 7,750.51	Month 7	October	**£ 173.26**	DD
Direct Debit	**EE**	Admin	£ 3,075.00	£ 2,235.00	**£ 24.00**	£ 4.00	245 7193 48	£ 2,215.00	monthly inv.	October	**£ 24.00**	DD
								£ -			£ -	
2026/10/p1	**HMRC**	Staff costs	£ 17,965.00	£ 7,750.51	**£ 176.06**			£ 7,574.45	month 7	October	**£ 176.06**	
2026/10/p2	**Michael Webb**	Play area	£ 1,100.00	£ 515.96	**£ 73.34**			£ 442.62	wggm3019	October	**£ 73.34**	
2026/10/p3	**Somerset Council**	village upkeep	£ 7,500.00	£ 3,300.73	**£ 546.00**	£ 91.00	131 2544 12	£ 2,845.73	C0001124	September	**£ 546.00**	
2026/10/p4	**Go.2.Services**	Village upkeep	£ 7,500.00	£ 2,845.73	**£ 698.00**			£ 2,147.73	inv 2271	October		***combined***
		environment reserve		£ 1,346.52	**£ 80.00**			£ 1,266.52	inv 2271			***combined***
		East Mead Reserve		£ 8,809.87	**£ 32.00**			£ 8,777.87	inv 2271		**£ 810.00**	***total***
2026/10/p5	**Adobe [via tf to council prepayment card]**	Admin	£ 3,075.00	£ 2,215.00	**£ 238.75**			£ 1,976.25		October	**£ 238.75**	
2026/10/p6	**NALC**	training	£ 600.00	£ 515.00	**£ 42.00**	£ 7.00	233 4102 14	£ 480.00		October	**£ 42.00**	
2026/10/p7	**Walton Village Hall Trust CIO**	Room Hire	£ 250.00	£ 155.50	**£ 30.00**			£ 125.50		September	**£ 30.00**	***note account name change***
2026/10/p8	**Bristol & Wessex Water**	Admin	£ 3,075.00	£ 1,976.25	**£154.66**			£ 1,821.59		October	**£ 154.66**	
2026/10/p9	**GB Sport & Leisure**	Play area	£ 1,100.00	£ 442.62	**£ 6.00**			£ 436.62		October	**£ 6.00**	
								£ -			£ -	
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE:				**£ 3,409.00**						**£ 3,409.00**	

TWO COUNCILLORS TO SIGN CHEQUES, INITIAL CHEQUE STUBS / AUTHORISE PAYMENTS ONLINE,
INITIAL IN VOICES, AND SIGN THIS SCHEDULE PLEASE

Cllr.	Sign:	Date:

Notes:

KEY:

DD or SO	
Online payment	
cheque	

NOTES:	
Reference NUMB	NOTE:
2026/10/p1	Tax & NI month 6
2026/10/p2	play area grass cutting
2026/10/p3	bin emptying
2026/10/p4	installation, bulbs for community
2026/10/p5	~Adobe annual fee
2026/10/p6	Training [chair]
2026/10/p7	room hire - monthly and planning liaison
2026/10/p8	Allotment water charge
2026/10/p9	trim trail end caps

closed 10am on day of meeting